

S/N 09/638,638

Response to Office Action Dated 5/4/2004

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

In accordance with the PTO's amendment format, a detailed listing of all claims has been provided. A status identifier is provided for each claim in parentheses following each claim number. Changes to the claims are shown by strikethrough or double bracketing (for deleted text) or underlining (for added text).

**In the Claims:**

Claims 1-27 were previously pending.

Please amend claims 1, 8, 10, 16, 17, and 23 as shown below.

No claims are canceled.

No new claims are added.

Claims 1-27 are pending.

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### Claims

1. (currently amended) A method for use in a graphical user interface, the method comprising:  
determining an offset value between a selected object's position and an input position; and  
dynamically and gradually reducing the offset value by correctively adjusting the input position with respect to the object's position in proportion to a movement of the selected object.
2. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the object position includes a preferred contact area.
3. (original) The method as recited in Claim 2, wherein the preferred contact area includes a definable point associated with an object, and the object can be selectively moved within the graphical user interface.
4. (original) The method as recited in Claim 1, wherein the input position includes updated positioning information from a user input mechanism.
5. (original) The method as recited in Claim 4, wherein dynamically and gradually reducing the offset value further includes implementing a corrective function that selectively and incrementally reduces the offset based on the updated positioning information.

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6. (original) The method as recited in Claim 4, wherein implementing the corrective function that selectively and incrementally reduces the offset based on the updated positioning information is further selectively implemented based upon differences between the updated positioning information with respect to previous positioning information.

7. (original) The method as recited in Claim 5, wherein the corrective function includes a linear corrective factor.

8. (currently amended) A method for use in a graphical user interface, the method comprising:

determining an offset value between a selected object's position and an input position, wherein the input position includes updated positioning information from a user input mechanism and wherein the selected object moves in proportion to a change in the positioning information; and

dynamically and gradually reducing the offset value by implementing a corrective function including a linear corrective factor that selectively and incrementally reduces the offset in proportion to a movement of the selected object based on the updated positioning information, such that the linear corrective factor reduces the offset by at least one pixel for every four pixels in the updated positioning information.

9. (previously presented) The method as recited in Claim 1, further comprising graphically displaying the object within a graphical user interface.

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10. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for causing at least one processing unit to perform acts comprising:

determining an offset value between a selected object's position and an input position; and

in proportion to a movement of the selected object, dynamically and gradually reducing the offset value by correctively adjusting the input position with respect to the object's position.

11. (original) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 10, wherein the object position includes a preferred contact area.

12. (original) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 11, wherein the preferred contact area includes a definable point associated with an object that can be selectively moved within the graphical user interface.

13. (original) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 10, wherein the input position includes updated positioning information from a user input mechanism.

14. (original) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 13, wherein dynamically and gradually reducing the offset value further includes implementing a corrective function that selectively and incrementally reduces the offset based on the updated positioning information.

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15. (original) The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 14, wherein the corrective function includes a linear corrective factor.

16. (currently amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for causing at least one processing unit to perform acts comprising:

determining an offset value between a selected object's position and an input position; and

dynamically and gradually reducing the offset value using a corrective function that selectively and incrementally reduces the offset in proportion to a movement of the selected object, ~~and wherein the corrective function includes a linear corrective factor that reduces the offset by at least one pixel for every four pixels of input position movement.~~

17. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising logic configured to determine an offset value between a selected object's position and an input position, and dynamically and gradually reduce the offset value by correctively adjusting the input position with respect to the object's position in proportion to a movement of the selected object.

18. (original) The apparatus as recited in Claim 17, wherein the object position includes a preferred contact area.

19. (original) The apparatus as recited in Claim 18, wherein the preferred contact area includes a definable point associated with an object that can be selectively moved within the graphical user interface.

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logic operatively coupled to the display device and the input device and configured to determine an offset value between a selected object's position and the input position, and reduce the offset value using a corrective function that selectively and incrementally reduces the offset in proportion to a movement of the selected object based on the updated positioning information, and wherein the corrective function includes a linear corrective factor that reduces the offset by at least one pixel for every four pixels in the updated positioning information.

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24. (original) The apparatus as recited in Claim 20, wherein the input device includes a pointing device.

25. (original) The apparatus as recited in Claim 24, wherein the pointing device includes a mouse.

26. (original) The apparatus as recited in Claim 20, wherein the input device includes a touch screen device.

27. (previously presented) The apparatus as recited in claim 17, wherein the logic is operatively configured within a computer.